

The LongPath

A North Alabama DX Club Publication

Special points of interest:

- From the President
- September Meeting Minutes
- October Program
- Keeping Score
- DX Contests

How to Join

- * Come to a club meeting;
- * or send in an application by mail (form on www.NADXC.org)
- * or call Tom Duncan at (256)705-2147

From the President

By Mark Brown, N4BCD

The days are growing shorter and while I'm late taking Steve AG4W's advice to do some antenna upgrades, I'm using the available daylight after work to complete a northeast beverage antenna. I'll have a write-up about it next month. It seems that there were too many distractions this summer. Like moths to a light, we're drawn to those new W1AW portable operations that spring up every Tuesday night - and DX whenever.

This column was written two days before our annual NADXC picnic against the backdrop of an ominous weekend forecast out of the NWS. Let's hope for a few hours of dry weather.

We're a month late on naming a nominating committee and will rectify, EE guys like that word instead of "fix", at the next meeting. At our next meeting we'll also discuss the budgeted disbursement of DXpedition sponsorship.

I've discovered a new mode. New for me at least. The week before CQ WW RTTY found me home-brewing an FSK interface that worked flawlessly. It took me a few hours to grow comfortable with the mode and control via N1MM+ but I had a blast. A few hours into the contest I tweaked some of the exchange macros to more closely follow what others were doing and my rates

improved. The really gratifying part - my LOTW digital mode count went from 30 to 64. The not so good part - making a marginal 15m trap on the tri-bander worse from too much power and overheating a Murch tuner & DXE balun during an 80m run.

This column, for lack of other content, is filled with stuff I've been doing. What have you be doing the last few weeks or months. Shoot a letter to the editor and let us know!

One more thing... W1AW/4 ALABAMA begins this Tuesday evening at 7PM local time - during our monthly meeting. For those trying for all bands & modes, please come to the meeting. They'll be there all week! Also, it's not too late to get on the schedule for some operating time. See you in the pile-ups.

73,

Mark

The LongPath Staff

Publisher/Editor:

Tom Duncan, KG4CUY

Departments:

Chuck Lewis, N4NM, DX Contests

Bill Bathgate, KD8IGK, Minutes

Mark Brown, N4BCD, From the President

September Meeting Minutes

By Bill Bathgate, KD8IGK

1. The September 9 NADXC meeting began around 6PM at Ryan's with folks gathering for dinner. There were 25 members in attendance. Mark N4BCD solicited feedback on last month's DX Banquet and there were several positive comments. Same for the Hamfest.

2. It was mentioned that three states will activate in the ARRL Centennial this week: /0 Colorado, /1 New Hampshire, and /5 Texas.

3. Johnny KR4F reported that Scotty Neustadter W4WW passed away. Scotty was a past Hamfest Chairman, Field Day Chairman, and active club member.

4. Johnny also noted the upcoming short 3 day activation of E3 Eritrea as one of the top in the most-wanted list.

5. Tim AB4B mentioned that Ron W4VM is looking into the intermit-

tent noise on the W4QB club repeater.

6. Mark N4BCD reminded everyone of the upcoming picnic:

7. Where: Monte Sano State Park Pavilion, 5105 Nolen Ave SE, Huntsville, AL 35801 (from the parking lot, the southernmost covered pavilion)

8. When: Sunday, October 12, 2014 10AM to late afternoon. Lunch at 1PM

9. Details: Pot Luck. Bring something good to share. Bring chairs & drinks. The club will provide plates & utensils.

10. Radios and aerials are invited too and we'll have several stations on the air. Tell the gate attendant you're there for the NADXC picnic for free admission to the park.

11. There was no old or new business brought before the club.

12. Program: With the equinox approaching, we need to recalibrate our seasonal sense of what to expect, band-by-band, each hour of the day, and how that will change as we move from summer to fall, to winter, and to spring. Get the scoop from Tom Russell, N4KG, just in time for contest season.

13. Current Bank Balance.

Beginning Balance

August 12..... \$ 3,977.84

Deposits \$ 00.00

Withdrawal (Monte Sano

Picnic Pavilion)\$ 75.00

Ending Balance

September 2 \$ 3,902.84

Notes provided by:

William Bathgate KD8IGK - NADXC Treasurer and Secretary

October Program

By Tim Winingers, AB4B

Wishing to avoid controversy, Tim chose an innocuous topic none of us would argue about or even take sides on—"DXers and Contesters—Do They Mix?" We certainly know who's "us" and who's "them" - don't we?

If you feel a slight twitch of schizophrenia, don't miss Tim's talk. Get to Ryan's around 6:00 this coming Tuesday for dinner, 7:00 for the business meeting, and 7:30 for Tim's program.



NADXC Officers and Directors

President	Mark Brown, N4BCD
Vice President	Warren Alford, KJ4RAQ
Secretary/ Treasurer	Bill Bathgate, KD8IGK
At-large directors	Chuck Lewis, N4NM Tom Duncan, KG4CUY Kevin Hibbs, KG4TEI

Cont'd on p. 3

The ARRL tells us “...the Centennial QSO Party isn’t a contest...” If we’re keeping score, it sure looks and smells like a contest. And it looks like more than a few NADXC members are caught up in it. Below is a (October 10) snapshot of the leaderboards with club member calls highlighted. The TN guys (Bruce AC4G and myself) are edited into the Alabama rankings.

Centennial Points Challenge Leader Board

Rank	Call Sign	Points	QSOs
10	N4JF	96765	10926
57	KR4F	50762	4365
129	K5WP	37614	3309
395	K4HAL	23809	3048
547	KJ4LTA	20422	2082
551	N4KH	20289	2451
688	N4KG	18209	2522
821	KS4L	16373	1992
905	AG4W	15628	2197
958	ND4Q	15097	1088
994	NN4R	14808	825
1041	AC4G	14413	2026
1145	KG4CUI	13529	1584
1161	K4WI	13369	2231
1303	KC4HW	12513	2246
1307	KO4SB	12489	458
1461	W4NBS	11540	1107
1518	K4AB	11218	1900
1555	WA8HSB	10963	1248
1670	NA4MM	10314	1063
1743	WN4AT	9988	1802
1775	N4BCD	9865	852
1905	K4YMQ	9312	707
2038	K4IQJ	8826	970
2163	W4JSI	8385	1222
2175	N4SDB	8353	299
2218	WA4NZD	8233	1347

W1AW Portable Stations Leader Board

Rank	Call Sign	QSOs
44	N4KG	1278
62	AC4G	1216
64	KR4F	1209
108	N4JF	1090
148	KI4TWA	981
240	NA4MM	810
317	W4NBS	718
451	NN4R	616
579	ND4Q	545
595	N4KC	538
727	WN4AT	483
818	K5WP	448
850	K4HAL	435
897	KB5EZ	421
996	KG4CUI	394
1022	WA8HSB	388
1087	KS4L	376
1220	N4BCD	344
1292	KK4TE	331
1313	K4YMQ	327
1345	W4DSM	322
1599	KI4SP	282
1749	NR4J	261
1962	KC4TLK	240
2060	KG4MPU	231
2373	KJ4LTA	206
2373	KO4SB	206

DX Contests for October

By Chuck Lewis, N4NM

Oceania DX Phone Contest (PH), 160-10 meters

Oct 4, 0800Z to Oct 5, 0800Z

Exchange: RS & Serial No.

See page 87, Oct. QST and
www.oceaniadxcontest.com

Makrothen Contest, (Digital), 80- 10 meters

Oct. 11, 0000Z to Oct. 12,
1600Z (See website for time
details)

Exchange: 4 character grid
square

See page 87, Oct. QST and
[www.home.arcor.de/
waldemar.kebsch](http://www.home.arcor.de/waldemar.kebsch)

Oceania DX CW Contest (CW), 160-10 meters

Oct 11, 0800Z to Oct 12,
0800Z

Exchange: RST & Serial No.

See page 87, Oct. QST and
www.oceaniadxcontest.com

Scandinavian Activity Contest, (SSB) 80-10 meters

Oct. 11, 1200Z to Oct. 12,
1200Z

Exchange: RS & Serial No.

See page 87, Oct. QST and
<http://www.sactest.net>

EU Autumn Sprint, (CW), 80-20 meters

Oct. 13, 1600Z to 2000Z

Exchange: Both Callsigns, S.N.,

Name

See page 87, Oct. QST and
www.eusprint.com

JARTS WW RTTY Contest, (RTTY), 80-10 meters

Oct. 18, 0000Z to Oct. 19,
2400Z

Exchange: RS(T) & age; YL: 00

See page 87, Oct. QST and
www.jarts.jp

Worked All Germany Contest, (SSB & CW), 20-10 meters

Oct 18, 1500Z to Oct 19,
1459Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus serial
number or DOK code

See page 87, Oct. QST and
[www.darc.de/referate/dx/
contesting/wag/en](http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/contesting/wag/en)

Asia-Pacific Sprint, (CW), 15 & 20 meters

Oct. 18, 0000Z-0200Z,

Exchange: RST plus serial
number

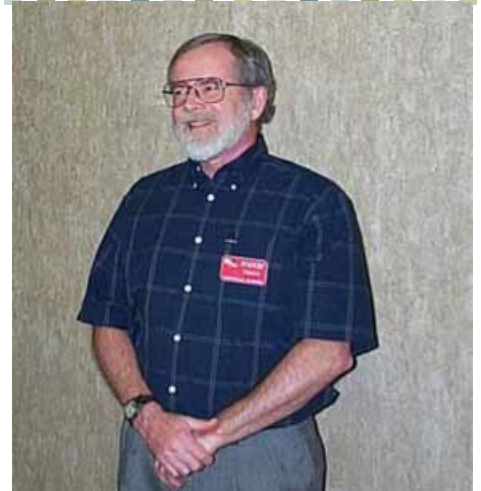
See page 87, Oct QST and
[www.jsfc.org/apsprint/
aprule.txt](http://www.jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt)

Run for the Bacon Contest, (CW), 160-10 meters

Oct. 20, 0200Z to 0400Z

Exchange: RS(T), and S/P/C
and Flying Pig nr. or power

See page 89, Oct. QST and
www.fpqrp.org



Stew Perry Warmup Contest, (CW), 160 meters

Oct. 18, 1500Z to Oct. 19,
1500Z

Exchange: 4-character grid
square

See page 87, Oct. QST and
www.kkn.net/stew

CQ WW SSB, (SSB), 160-10 me- ters

Oct. 25, 0000Z to Oct 26,
2359Z

Exchange: RS & CQ zone

See page 87, Oct. QST and
www.cqww.com

WAE DX Contest (DIG), 80-10 meters

Nov. 89, 0000Z to Nov. 9,
2400Z

Exchange: RST plus serial
number (see rules for QTC)
See www.waedc.de

Dates & times often change or
are misprinted in the journals;
beware. Also, check the cluster:
“sh/contest”. Have fun!

Chuck, N4NM